GALLERY MINT REPORT

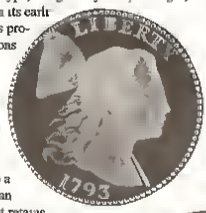
Dedicated to the Preservation and Advancement of the Numismatic Arts

Volume 3 Issue #1 **May 1996**

1793 LIBERTY CAP CENT REPRODUCTION NOW AVAILABLE

As promised, we are continuing the type set of 1793 with our most recent project, the reproduction of the Liberty cap cent of 1793. Of the three types of large cents produced in 1793, the Liberty Cap Cent is the most rare. A Guide Book of United States Coins (the "Red Book") lists the mintage of this coin to be only 11,056. The first two types of large cents issued by the U.S. Mint, the "Chain Cent" and the "Wreath Cent" where not well accepted by the public. Most certainly, the old adage of "Third time's a charm" held true in this case.

Apparently this type, designed by Joseph Wright, was better accepted than its earlier counterparts, and was produced in several variations until 1796 when it was replaced by the more elegant Draped Bust type. The 1793 Liberty Cap cent features a lettered edge that reads, "ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR." It is also a bit larger in diameter than earlier cents (29mm) but retains the same weight of 13.48 grams of pure copper.



The portrait of Liberty on the 1793 version of this coin has a very "soft" look to her. Later dates of the same type are much sharper, with more defined hairlines. Also, the first year of this type has a beaded border that was replaced with dentils (the tooth-like pattern that forms the rim) the following year.

It is believed that Joseph Wright got his inspiration for this design from Dupre's LIBERTAS AMERICANA medal which features the allegoneal profile of Liberty carrying the Liberty cap on a pole. This cap, once worn by slaves, becomes a symbol of liberty when depicted off the head, and carried on a pole behind the main figure. The reverse of this coin is a simplified version of its predecessor, the Wreath Cent.

Gallery Mint has faithfully replicated this coin using the same type of engraving techniques and for the most part, the same processes that were used to create the originals. Besides the mandatory **"COPY"** stamp that is required by law, the edge design was changed slightly as an added measure of security. This was done with the addition of the Gallery Mint mark in the shape of a screw press, and the initials of engraver-die sinker Ron Landis.

After receiving several complaints of the extreme low mintage of 500 on our last proof copper piece, we have decided to increase mintage to 1200 proofs on the Liberty Cap repro so that more collectors will have an opportunity to acquire this piece. It still remains somewhat of a balancing act for us to determine what the demand for a certain piece may be. We don't want to overproduce, but we also don't want to make them so limited that it makes it impossible to obtain one.

Proofs available for $17 each plus $ & H

The proofs take a long time to produce because the planchets are individually polished with jewelers rouge. This is the only way we have found to get a clean proof strike into pure copper without getting a cloudy look. The dies are also polished every twenty to thirty strikes because of the excessive abrasion they encounter. Since these are struck collarless, the copper is free to

See • **Cap Cent, *Page 5***

The Gallery Mint Museum Our Mission...

The Gallery Mint Museum -- dedicated to the preservation and advancement of the Numismatic Arts -- is a private mint, whose mission is to build a permanent museum showing the evolution of coin-making technology from ancient Greece through the Industrial Revolution.

When complete, the museum will exhibit the entire minting process, with full-scale equipment, including a water wheel for generating power and a huge furnace for melting silver and copper.

The goal and dream of owners Ron Landis and Joe Rust is to recreate the art, history, and technology of early coin-making techniques, stimulating the public's interest in the numismatic arts and an understanding of its role in our heritage.

Funding for this project comes directly from the sales of items produced at the mint. Your dollars directly support the mission and your continued support insures the success of the Museum.

"We believe this is an excellent way of instilling an appreciation of the numismatic arts," says Chief Engraver, Ron Landis who, after more than a decade of demonstrating early coin making techniques at art shows and renaissance festivals teamed up with machinist Joe Rust in 1992.

Many of the techniques used by early coin makers were thrown aside in the advent of progress and many questions still remain unanswered. By working with the actual technology available in a given time period, Gallery Mint Museum hopes to gain a better understanding of the problems faced by the early coin makers.

The importance of coins in our history is obvious. Also of great import are the technologies developed for coin production. Because coins were one of the first items mass produced, the earlier mints created a proving ground for new technologies that eventually found their way into modern industries in ways too numerous to mention.

We believe an art form with such historical importance deserves a museum dedicated to the subject.

The original hand engraving techniques used to create the designs that adorned coins for millennia are now all but lost as modern mints move toward more modern means of creating the dies used in coin production.

GMM also hopes to hold classes in traditional hand engraving with guest instructors invited to give seminars in related arts such as sculpting and casting.

Patrons of the Gallery Mint Museum receive this complimentary newsletter and updates on new medal issues. Medals are offered for a limited time to Patrons before advertised the general public.

[redacted]

Strawberry Leaf Giveaway Winners

The response to our "Strawberry Leaf" wreath cent reproduction give-away was tremendous. We received some really outrageous postcards. The drawing was held 2-1-96 and made officially non-biased when Ron's four year old son Lucas picked the winners names from a big box. The winners are Stanley Prazer from Pennsylvania, Jackson Hinzman from Alaska, and Barry Beavers and J.F. Dancer Jr. both from Alabama. Thank you to everybody that entered.

Sneak preview of the 1796 Quarter Dollar, available this Summer

Gallery Mint Report

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE GALLERY MINT

This newsletter is published every so often or whenever we get time to get to it. The views expressed in the editorial departments of this publication are from a temperamental artist and raving lunatic and should be taken with a grain of salt.

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We provide this newsletter as a free service to our patrons. We hope to provide a perspective, relating to the technical and artistic aspects of numismatics, that is rarely covered in other numismatic publications. If you have any suggestions for topics, or have a story you feel would be of interest to our readers, feel free to call or write. Your opinions and ideas are not only welcome, they will actually be [illegible]. No kidding. Please feel free to make additional copies of this newsletter for your coin club or organization, or to share with friends.

Gallery Mint Museum
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scratching the surface

Continuing to unravel stories from the newspaper's archive

The British are coming

Some say the name Scotland comes from the Roman word for tattooed people, Scoti. Others say it comes from the Gaelic word for wanderer, Scuit. Whatever the origin, the Romans never managed to conquer Scotland. Hadrian's Wall was built to keep out the Scots. It was famous because pressmen could walk on it.

Hadrian's Wall was built between the years 122 and 128 AD by Roman soldiers. It was 73 miles long and 15 feet high. It

On the Drawing Board

As promised before we intend to complete our reproduction type set of 1793 with the release of the half cent later this year. Also in the works is the entire type set of 1796. This 13 piece set will include copies of the following coins.

Half Cent, Liberty Cap Cent, Draped Bust Cent, Half Dime, Dime, Quarter Dollar, Half Dollar 15 stars, Half Dollar 16 Stars, Dollar, Quarter Eagle no stars, Quarter Eagle w/stars, Half Eagle, and the $10 Gold Eagle.

The quarter dollars are ready to go, but we will not release them until a few more pieces of the set are ready and in production.

A limited number of proof sets will be available, or can be purchased separately. We're not exactly sure how to limit these. Since it could take up to two years to complete the entire set, we don't want to make the same mistake of making them so limited that most of our patrons would be left out. We would like to make it available to all Gallery Mint collectors and make it possible to "subscribe" to the whole set, or any part of it. Again, your ideas and opinions on this are much needed.

We may sneak in another Prefederal piece, or other surprises as inspiration dictates. The New Jersey Coppers may become a continuing adventure as we add some of the more scarce varieties from time to time.

...and keep those cards and letters coming...

We're always happy to hear from you. If you have any suggestions, or input concerning any aspect of the project, your comments are always welcome. We have been receiving so much mail, it is becoming difficult to personally respond to each letter, but suggestions are always taken into consideration, and compliments are always greatly appreciated.

If you have written, and not received a return letter, please don't feel as though we are ignoring you. Changes are always taking place in response to some seemingly minor suggestions brought up by our collectors. This information is extremely valuable to us.

We won't ever pretend to know everything about what we are doing. It takes the combined experience and insight of all involved if we are to continue to show improvement and growth.

Secondary market for GMM reproductions

"Sellers....I mean buyers..... No, I meant to say sellers....."

In our last newsletter we mentioned that we're perfectly delighted to hear that demand has exceeded the supply of GMM medals and reproductions. We want to help where we can, and in the last issue we offered to supply the names of sellers to those of you whomight be prospective buyers.

If you had GMM medals you were willing to sell and were willing to have your name, address and phone number published in a letter to prospective buyers, you contacted us just like we asked.

If you were a buyer interested in GMM reproductions, we asked you to send us your request. We said we'd mail a current copy of the Sellers list to you.

It all seemed logical to us in theory and on paper but it worked out quite differently. We ended up with two lists. The buyers list had hundreds of names and the sellers list had just two names.

Seems kind of silly to send a list of just two names to all those buyers. So we're going to reverse that and let the sellers know you hundreds of buyers are out there.

•Buyers

If you're looking for GMM medals on the secondary market *and* are willing to have your name, address and phone number published in a letter to sellers, please contact us by mail or phone.

•Sellers

If you have GMM medals you are willing to sell, let us know. Drop us a line and we will send you the list of folks interested in buying what you may have for sale.

•All

If you've already supplied us with your name and preferences pertaining to this matter, we already have your name in our file. Just let us know when you want to have your name removed from the list.

•Gallery Mint Museum

This will be the extent of our involvement and our responsibility. All negotiations, terms, payment, etc will be between the buyer and seller.

GEM

• Liberty Cap

Continued from Page 1

sive abrasion they encounter Since these are struck col larless the copper is free to spread outward as it is struck. This movement causes small lines of erosion that become more evident strike after strike Most likely a mintage of 1200 pieces will require a second or even third pair of dies to make it through the entire run as this frequent polishing shortens the life of the dies dramatically

The uncirculated version of this replica will be available for an extended period and is offered at $8 each plus $2 S&H In the past, we have been having a difficult time keeping up with the demand for the cent replicas This time, we are working to have several hundred of them in stock by the time this newsletter is released so that we can get them shipped out right away We will still ask for four to six weeks delivery to give us more breathing room but we are aware of the problem and working toward smoothing this out so that we can send copper orders within a week after the order is received.

Proceeds from the sales of these reproductions will help to fund our next expansion project

GMM

Gallery Mint Report *monthly* soon

In a couple of months we re planning on changing the **Gallery Mint Report** from *"whenever"* to *"monthly."* There s so much information we want to deliver to you and publishing on an *"every so often"* basis won't allow it. This change will cause our printing & materi al costs, etc to rise We already know you would rather have us spend money on the museum than on a monthly newsletter So to offset those expenses , we will be asking those of you interested in receiving this publication on a monthly basis to ante up Our rates will be fair And you'll get a lot for your money More features More pictures And no more mutilated newsletters! A dandy large envelope will replace the dreaded staple As a subscriber you'll continue to regularly receive the GMM "**Collectors Update**" as well as non-subscribers

We're interested in hearing what you have to say about this, or anything else Please feel free to drop us a post card

GMM reproductions stir controversy

In the past several months the reproduction work at Gallery Mint has been the subject of debate in the numismatic press Coin World published a number of letters that expressed concern as to the possible problems these replicas could be to the hobby The biggest concern is the possibility of the copy stamp being filled in or altered by high tech means and passed off as a genuine coin

Several of our patrons responded in defense of these replicas pointing out many of the positive things we are doing for the hobby We appreciate the votes of support from all who came to our defense on this issue

The people who are opposed to this kind of activity have a genuine concern that must be taken into consideration. It is true that none of these replicas could ever pass authentication Most of them are copies of extremely rare and valuable coins which should always be looked at with the closest of scrut iny when being purchased. Gallery Mint aside, there are some pretty convincing counterfeits and alterations of genuine coins out there. The key here is education Know what you're buying. If you don't know have it authenticated. This is a good rule when purchasing anything collectible

We don't want to take a lax attitude about this issue We are looking at various ways that these replicas could be made more tamper proof, to help put at ease the fear of someone getting ripped off down the road. We want people to have fun with these, and don't want anyone getting hurt in a deceptive transaction

On the Liberty Cap Cent repro we added an incuse mint mark and the initials "RL" and dated "96 " This should give more clues that the piece is not original We are also looking at other means to secure the thinner pieces that will be created in the future One way would be to incorporate the stamp into the reverse die, and offer them with copy stamp on reverse only This would eliminate the temptation to take two pieces and put them together to create one without the copy stamp

For those of you who are new to our mailing list, we would like to reiterate that the COPY stamp MUST appear on the obverse or reverse of these reproductions. The stamp can not go on the edge, or be made smaller or lighter It is not our desire to challenge these laws which are in place for good reasons.

Sign seen hanging over Joes tathe...

ACHTUNG!

Das machine ist nicht fur der fingerpoken und mittengrabben. Ist easy schnappen der springenwerk, blowen die fusen blitzen und bolloxen die alltesmachen mit corkenpoppin und spitzensparken. Ist nicht fur gewerken by das dunkopfen. Das rubbernecking sightseeren keepen das hands in das pockets relaxen, und watch das turner schpindel Ya?!

Mintage Report

- **1786 New Jersey Copper Reproduction** -- 8F Maris. 496 have been produced
- **1787 New Jersey Copper Reproduction** -- 62.5F Maris. 488 have been produced.
- **Wreath Cent Reproduction** -- The uncirculated issue began production on 10-20-95. A total of 6,000 were minted.
- **Flowing Hair Silver Dollar Reproduction** -- Current mintage at 1,318 out of 1,758.
- **1995 Gallery Mint Medal** -- Of 500, 282 are still available
- **1994 Gallery Mint Medal** -- Of 500, 155 are still available
- **1993 Gallery Mint Medal** -- Of 500, 143 are still available.
- **1795 Half-Eagle $5 Gold Piece Reproduction** -- Proofs sold out 8 weeks from release. Finished production of gold proofs as of 4-3-96 - 200 total.
- **1795 Half-Eagle $5 Gold Piece Reproduction (Uncirculated)** -- Production began 4-5-96
- **Liberty Cap Reproduction Proofs** -- 1,200 projected
- Thank you for your interest and support of the Gallery Mint Museum.

Left to right : Ron Landis Joe Rust Cathy Cunningham Denny Osburn, Adam Hardcastle, Sonny Carpenter

We're proud to announce the addition of three new staff members. Cathy Cunningham, a native of DeRidder, Louisiana is our new office manager. Cathy has lived in Eureka Springs for 16 years. Her hobbies include travel and sewing. The chances are good that you'll speak to Cathy if you call during business hours. And the sound you'll hear in the background is Cathy whipping our office into shape.

Sonny Carpenter, professional sculptor, also lives in Eureka Springs. A man of many talents, Sonny is assistant coiner and an apprentice nickel carver. Sonny's future duties here at GMM include architectural design and the sculpting and carving of museum pieces & parts.

A recent implant to Eureka Springs from Kansas City, Denny Osburn will tend to Gallery Mint Museum's future audio and video needs. He's also handling the layout and editing of our newsletter. Like Ron Landis, Joe Rust, and Adam Hardcastle, Denny is also a multi-instrumentalist, and the chances are good that in a few months you'll get a chance to hear some fine musical statements. Stay tuned!

The GMM Grading System

In case there's any doubt in your mind how to grade a coin made here at the Gallery Mint, here's what works for us:

MS - Mannara satine on surface
AU - Almost unacceptable
EF - Extra fine dust particles strike through
VF - Veritable flower
F - Fingerprints
VG - Very greasy
G -- Good as it gets
PB - Peanut butter on medal
LSMFT - Lucky strikes mainly found in theory

The GMM Press Report

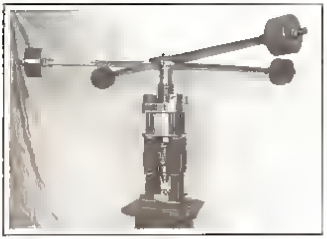
Main press breaks down. Concept dollars put on hold

February 29 was not a good day for GMM. Our main screw press finally gave way to old age and metal fatigue. The threads of both the large screw and bronze nut were cracked beyond repair. We noticed the problem earlier as the press began binding up. After taking it apart for a routine clean and lube, the problem was confirmed. The parts where sent off to have replacements made by a specialist and is expected back soon.

Happily, this could not have happened at a more convenient time. Just days earlier, Gallery Mint had just acquired another, larger screw press that was assembled and running in a short time. We have been doing all our production on this new press except for the concept dollars which are struck in a collar. Our collar mechanism will not fit in the new press, so production on these pieces have been suspended for a short period. If you ordered a concept dollar and have not received it yet, please bear with us until the old press is up and running again. Joe Rust is also busy machining a pneumatic collar-eject system that will be used in the large press, so by the time this newsletter is released, collar struck pieces should resume production.

Our new press was engineered by Mr. Robert McNamara in 1958 for his Heraldic Art Co. of Cleveland Ohio. It is driven by two levers that are eight feet long. Four separate, 100 pound weights are at the end of these levers which drive a screw that is 5 and 1/2 inches in diameter. What all that means is a whole lot more pressure (150 tons) than the smaller press that has been our main "workhorse" for so many years. Our large silver medals are coming out much nicer and more fully struck than ever before.

Joe took the press apart. He cleaned, oiled, and restored it. The large bronze nut on the press has been engraved to honor Robert McNamara, who designed it and used it to strike half dollar size commemorative pieces for many years. Mr. McNamara suffered a stroke and passed away late last year. Mrs. McNamara has graciously offered to part with some of Robert's engraving equipment and two other small presses that have been restored and will be used in our Mobile Mint Mint. (See story on "Collectors' Jubilee," back page.)



McNamara screw press after restoration

We are always on the lookout for screw presses of all types and sizes. Also needed is a larger rolling mill. If you know of any used coining or related equipment that could be available in your area, we would love to hear from you. We would again like to thank everyone who has donated tools, photographs, books, and research time to the project.

The proof gold pictured in the last newsletter was not correct. It was missing one star. Shown above is an example of the proofs struck from the new, corrected, fifteen-star dies. Also, we decided to place the copy stamp in the center of the eagles breast to avoid marring the field opposite this stamp. Two hundred were produced and shipped.

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GMM Mobile Mini-Mint to debut at Collectors' Jubilee in Tulsa

We are proud to announce our first public presentation in many years April 26, 27 and 28 Gallery Mint will appear at the 3rd annual Collectors Jubilee at Expo Square Tulsa State fairgrounds

We will provide a working exhibit that will demonstrate the production of a medalet to celebrate this event. The pewter piece depicts a juke box on the obverse in keeping with the 50 s theme this year The piece will also feature a lettered edge and will be available at the show

Edge mill used in daily production and doubles as part of the traveling demonstration. Built by Joe Kast.

Steve presented to strike small pewter medalets in Gallery Mint's new mobile exhibit.

Billed as one of the most spectacular collectable shows in the country this event promises to be something memorable Many nationally recognized artists will be appearing in person Anything and everything collectible including toys ornaments Disney dolls figurines and sports memorabilia will be available Many manufacturing representatives and secondary market dealers will also be present

Hot off the Press

1793 Liberty Cap Cent Reproduction

Proof Issue $17 each. Unc Issue $8 each

The 1793 Liberty Cap cent features a lettered edge that reads "ONE HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR," replicated using the same type of engraving techniques and processes that were used to create the originals. 29mm and 13.46 grams.
(Uncirculated version shown. Proof shown on cover.)

Name _____ Phone ( ) _____
Address _____
City & State _____ Zip _____

Quantity	Item	Price	Specify! Copy stamp on Rev	Obv	Total
[ ]	**Proof 1793 Liberty Cap Cent Reproduction** Limited edition of one thousand two hundred	$17.00	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**Uncirculated 1793 Liberty Cap Cent Reproduction** Pure copper. Lettered edge	$8.00	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**1786 New Jersey Copper Reproduction** Maris 8-F variety. Approximately 28 mm pure copper	$8.00	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**1787 New Jersey Copper Reproduction** Maris 62.5 variety. Approximately 31mm pure copper	$8.00	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**Gallery Mint Medal 1993, 1994, 1995 (circle choices)** 1 1/2 troy oz. .999 fine silver. Limited edition 500	$35.00			____
[ ]	**1794 - 1994 Silver Dollar Bicentennial Medal** 1 troy oz. .999 fine silver. Limited edition 1,794	$49.71	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**1795 Gold Half Eagle Reproduction** (Uncirculated Issue) 8.75 grams. .9167 fine gold. 25mm reeded edge	$170.00	[ ]	[ ]	____
[ ]	**Gallery Mint Museum T-shirts** Dark hunter green t-shirts with yellow-gold GMM seal Sizes Medium, Large, X, and XX- and XXX-Large Please add $2 shipping and handling - Specify size(s)	$15.00			____
	Insured Shipping & Handling (Required for Silver & Gold Orders)	$ 4.00			____
	Insured Shipping & Handling (Cent orders of $4.6 or more)	$ 4.00			____
	Shipping & Handling (Cent orders less than $4.6)	$ 2.00			____
	Total				____

Arkansas residents please add 5% sales tax. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. The Hobby Protection Act requires a "copy" stamp on all reproductions. Copy stamp must appear on "obverse" or "reverse." Please specify.
Sorry, no C.O.D. phone or credit card orders. (We're 200 years behind in that technology too.)

Send check or money order to.

Gallery Mint Museum • P.O. Box 706 • Eureka Springs, AR 72632 • (501) 253-5055

Thank you for your support. Funding for the Gallery Mint Museum comes from the sales proceeds of Gallery Mint items. Your continued support will ensure the success of our mission.

1795 $5 Gold Half Eagle Repro

Designed by Robert Scot, the first gold coin struck at the U.S. Mint depicts Lady Liberty wearing a Phrygian cap with a small eagle design on the reverse. Accurately reproduced in 8.75 grams, .9167 fine gold.

~~$150.00 each~~ $170.00 each*

* Price increase due to unforseen processing charges

1786 New Jersey Copper Repro

This reproduction was created by GMM for the New Jersey Numismatic Society, with a special reverse to commemorate their 700th meetug in April 1996. The piece met with such enthusiasm that we decided to create a full replica of this rare variety, a Mans 8E, of which only four originals are known.

$8.00 each

1787 New Jersey Copper Repro

This recently discovered variety, the Mans 62.5, is unique and is the only variety known to carry the initials of Walter Mould. Only one of the originals is known to exist, which is believed to have been the personal coin of the die sinker, Walter Mould. Ours is recreated in every detail, right down to the die crack.

$8.00 each

1794-1994 Flowing Hair Dollar Bicentennial Medal

Commemorative reproduction of the first silver dollar minted at the U.S. Mint, using the same type of equipment and engraving techniques used to produce the originals over 200 years ago. Individually numbered in a limited edition of 1,758 pieces total, struck in 1 troy ounce .999 fine silver. $49.71 each

1995 Gallery Mint Annual Medal

The third in a series of annual medals produced by The Gallery Mint. This 1 1/2 troy ounce .999 fine silver celebrates *"The Hobo Nickel on American Folk Art Tradition."* The medal depicts on the obverse a hobo with top hat and bundle, with a steam engine and tender in the background and a tribute to BERT and BO on the reverse. Limited, numbered edition of 500.

$35.00 each